

# Rancho Los Alamitos Historic Ranch and Gardens

Rancho Los Alamitos  
6400 Bixby Hill Road  
Long Beach, California 90815  
[www.rancholosalamitos.org](http://www.rancholosalamitos.org)  
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## For Immediate Release

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### **Time, Seasons, & Cycles**

#### **Children's Story Times in the Gardens presented by Rancho Los Alamitos Historic Ranch and Gardens**

Wednesday, July 6 and Friday, July 8, 2011  
Wednesday, July 13 and Friday, July 15, 2011  
10:00 a.m. – 12:00 noon

**Long Beach, California** -- Children ages 4 through 9 years are invited to Story Times in the Gardens at Rancho Los Alamitos Historic Ranch and Gardens this summer. Master Storyteller, David Lewis, will bring celestial lore to life with stories of "Time, Seasons, and Cycles" and children will participate in learning activities including creation of tasty seasonal treats to share.

On **Wednesday, July 6**, from 10:00 a.m. until noon, the theme will be the "Wonderful Ways of Winter." While the constellation of Orion is bright in the winter sky, some animals sleep in winter's womb of hibernation while others migrate to warmer winter homes. Participants will hear the animals' stories, create wisps of winter weather and

experience the celebrations of the season. Featured stories by David Lewis will be *How Winter Came to Be* and *Coyote Dances with the Stars*.

Story Times will continue on **Friday, July 8**, from 10:00 a.m. until noon with "Spring is Seed Time." Children will celebrate the traditions and rites that mark the vernal season of spring with poetry, stories, and garden fun. Spring is the time when Leo rules the starry sky and Earth awakens to gentle showers that nourish seeds sown in the soil. The feature story, presented by David Lewis, will be the lively adventure of *Frog and Toad*.

Summer will be featured on **Wednesday, July 13**, from 10:00 a.m. until noon with "Summer Legends and Splashes of Laughter, Play and Holidays." Summer is the season when the mighty Sun rules the day and Hercules, the original Super Hero, steals the scene in the night sky. Attendees will play space games and hear David Lewis share traditional legends of summer, including *How Coyote Steals Summer* and *How Glooscap Found Summer*. Children will make a cycle of summer pies with fruits from the summer garden.

Story Times will wrap up on **Friday, July 15**, from 10:00 a.m. until noon with "Fall – When Nature Glows." When Autumn approaches the air takes on a chill; animals prepare for winter, leaves turn color and bountiful harvests are the rewards of days spent planting and tending. All around the world as the days grow short, the Moon, Earth's bright light in the Autumn night, is honored with festive lore and celebrations. David Lewis will return to tell the harvest stories of the Native American Tongva people.

Children must be accompanied by an adult. The price of general admission is \$8.00 per session. Admission for the children and grandchildren of individuals who are members of Rancho Los Alamitos is \$6.00 per session. There is no fee for the adults who are accompanying children. Reservations may be made on the Rancho's website at [www.rancholosalamitos.org](http://www.rancholosalamitos.org) or by calling the Rancho at (562) 431-3541. Telephone

reservations are accepted when purchased with a credit card. Tickets are held at the door and are transferable but not refundable.

Please note that there is limited ticket availability and advance reservations are required. Rancho Los Alamitos is located at 6400 Bixby Hill Road in Long Beach. To access the Rancho, please enter through Bixby Hill residential security gate at Anaheim and Palo Verde. Parking is free at the Rancho.

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A visit to the Rancho is a retreat from the bustle of the surrounding city. On Wednesday, July 6, after an unavoidable closure for construction, the Rancho will reopen for tours Wednesday through Sunday from 1-5 p.m. School tours and Children's Native American Cultural Workshops are scheduled weekday mornings. Admission is free and free parking is available on site. Enter through Bixby Hill residential security gate at Anaheim and Palo Verde.

Rancho Los Alamitos is owned by the City of Long Beach and operated by Rancho Los Alamitos Foundation as a public/private cooperative venture under the auspices of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Marine. For information about the site, tours, or special events and programs, please call (562) 431-3541 or visit the Rancho's website at [www.rancholosalamitos.org](http://www.rancholosalamitos.org).

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